



March 2007 Newsletter

Meetings of the Iowa Afterschool Alliance.

March brings many changes and events for the Iowa Afterschool Alliance. We're happy to have so much to share in this month's newsletter!

Calendar

The next meeting of the Iowa Afterschool Alliance will be:

March 9th, 9:30-11:30am Philanthropy Center,
third floor of the US Bank Building
425 Cedar Street
Downtown Waterloo

During this meeting, the membership will vote on adopting a new governance structure. A calendar for the year's meetings will also be set. See details later in the newsletter. Please consider car-pooling to attend this meeting; Waterloo IAA members are eager to share some of their current programming with us after the meeting. We strongly encourage you to attend in person, if possible, but conference call participation will be available.

The call-in number will be 515-237-0345, passcode: 243-2000.

Please RSVP to Rachel Lynch at rlynch@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance's Day on the Hill:

March 15th, 7:30-9am Legislative Dining Room, Ground Floor of Iowa
State Capitol
Des Moines

Your attendance is essential! Bring youth, families, staff, local elected officials, school personnel, funders, and community and business partners. Please help us demonstrate how important afterschool is to Iowa's kids, families and communities!

RSVP to Rachel Lynch at rlynch@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

Correction!

The **Boys and Girls Clubs PB&J Legislative Luncheon** will be held on **March 29th**—not March 30th, as reported in last month's IAA newsletter. This event will be held from 11am-1pm in Room 116 at the Capitol.

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance (IAA) Newsletter is a monthly venue of information and updates on afterschool programs and policies. For more information, please contact Rachel Scott at rscott@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

Iowa's Afterschool Appropriation Moving Forward

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance membership has been hard at work to ensure legislators know about the need for afterschool and the IAA's recommendation that the General Assembly appropriate \$4 million for afterschool in Iowa. Last year's appropriation of \$150,000 was repeated in the Governor's budget and appeared in the first drafts of SSB 1233 and HSB 194, the Senate and House versions of the Healthy Iowans Tobacco Trust (HITT) bill, from which the IAA suggested it be funded.

That language was removed from the HITT bill in recent days and put into the hands of the Joint Education Appropriations Subcommittee. Coincidentally, the IAA was invited to present last week (Feb. 21st) to that Subcommittee. Five presenters, with statewide representation and across different program types, made a very compelling and well-received case for afterschool and answered Subcommittee members' questions.

Many, many advocates have contacted their legislators in support of afterschool, and the IAA has provided advocacy training for nearly 60 people this year, thanks to an advocacy grant from the United Way. We need to keep up the momentum! Please take a moment to email or call your legislator and ask him/her to support increased funding for afterschool. We are happy to provide information to any legislator who requests it. Please contact Rachel Scott with questions:

rscott@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

The General Assembly's website, www.legis.state.ia.us, allows you to look up who your Senator and Representative are, and provides their contact information. The IAA's Policy Agenda is available in the "What's New" section of our website:

www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org.

Afterschool Funding Tops Iowa Attorney General's Criminal Law Proposals for 2007

Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller proposed a battery of ten criminal law legislative priorities that are under consideration by the Iowa Legislature. In his first priority is a specific statement of support for the Iowa Afterschool Alliance's \$4 million recommendation

for funding for afterschool programs. Miller said his top priority, as in prior years, is to strengthen drug treatment, enforcement and prevention. "We can reduce crime if we strengthen all three approaches," he said. "There is a very clear linkage between drugs and crime." Drug treatment helps reduce crime -- by 64 percent, according to one federal survey. Miller's proposal would increase funding for community substance abuse treatment by \$7 million, expand funding for drug courts by \$3 million, fund effective after-school programs with \$4 million, and replace lost Federal funding for drug task forces with \$1.8 million.

Funding Opportunities

Program applications for last year's state funding sources for afterschool helped the IAA to make the case this year for a need of \$4 million for afterschool funding. Some current funding sources are listed below:

Iowa Department of Public Health

Please view the Department's Notice of Funds page to see a number of potential grant opportunities for afterschool:

http://www.idph.state.ia.us/do/notice_of_funds.asp

RFP/RFAs include:

- BASICS for Nutrition and Physical Activity
Iowa Nutrition Network
- Youth Mentoring Project
- Comprehensive Substance Abuse Prevention
- Youth Development Project, and others

Iowa Department of Education

21st Century Community Learning Center grants are due March 8, 2007 by 4:30 p.m. Applications are now being taken for 21st CCLC before and afterschool grants. These grants are designed for the development of high quality before and afterschool or out-of-school time programs at the local level by providing federal funds to local school districts, nonprofit organizations, faith-based, community-based and other public and private organizations who qualify (see eligible list in grant application).

Go to the Iowa Department of Education website for more information:

<http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/view/833/526/>

Iowa Afterschool Alliance to Realign Governance Structure

Last summer the IAA adopted a temporary governance structure that would allow the membership to grow. Our database of members has doubled since then and with many opportunities and challenges ahead, the IAA will consider, and potentially adopt, a governance structure discussed and recommended by the Sustainability Work Group. At our March 9th meeting in Waterloo, we will bring this suggested model forward as well as any others submitted by members before that meeting. Please send any comments or suggestions to Rachel Scott (rscott@sppg.com) by noon on March 8th. Attached is a diagram of the recommended structure and a one-page description.

Afterschool for All Challenge!

Please make plans to join the Afterschool Alliance and advocates from across the country in Washington DC on April 23rd and 24th to help grow support for afterschool programs. The program will feature two full days of activities, including a Youth Advocacy track, training and networking sessions, and favorite events such as the Breakfast of Champions and meetings with Members of Congress and staff. At this year's Breakfast of Champions, we will honor afterschool champions, including Michael Vick, NFL star and supporter of afterschool.

The registration fee for the 2007 Challenge is \$150 per person and \$50 per youth (middle school or high school age). All interested parties who sign up after April 6th will be charged a registration fee of \$175. In addition to the trainings and events, all Challenge participants are provided with lunch and a reception on April 23rd as well as a seat at the Breakfast of Champions. Your congressional meetings will also be scheduled on your behalf. If you are planning to bring youth, we encourage you to bring youth middle school age and older and to bring only 1-2 youth so that we can accommodate youth from communities across the country.

For more information, please visit:

www.afterschoolalliance.org.

New Afterschool Financing Publications Available

The Finance Project has recently finished several new publications focused on financing and sustaining programs serving youth that are featured in the clearinghouse. These publications build upon their previous work in this area and include information on finding funding, suggestions for applying financing strategies and strategies for partnership building. Please visit The Finance Project's website at

<http://www.financeproject.org/irc/yp.asp> to access the series and to learn more about the project.

These include updated publications like:

- A Guide to Successful Public-Private Partnerships for Youth Programs
- Creating Dedicated Local and State Revenue Sources for Youth Programs
- Finding Funding: A Guide to Federal Sources for Youth Programs
- Thinking Broadly: Financing Strategies for Youth Programs
- Profiles of Promising Practices

SACERS Training Available

A SACERS (School Age Care Environmental Rating Scale) training will be held May 7-9, 2007 in Chapel Hill, NC. The SACERS is a major basis of Iowa's Child Care Quality Rating System for school age children. Please contact organizers as soon as possible as there are a limited number of spots available for this training. Please contact the training coordinator, Keisha Neal, at neal@mail.fpg.unc.edu or (919)966-7156.